

From: rainbowforest@axs.net
To: Mike Powell
Date: Sat, Apr 5, 2003 8:43 PM
Subject: Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell,

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, TV station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

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I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.

The stakes for citizens and the nation are enormous. More information, not less, about proposed changes would best serve the public interest. Indeed, we hope the Commission would do everything in its power to keep the rulemaking process as open and inclusive as possible.

P.S. I am personally horrified by two recent trends:

1) The growing monopoly of Clear Channel, its funding of protests and effectively blacklisting musical artists who voice anti-war and political opinions. 2) The attempted corporate takeover (nay, destruction) of the Pacifica Network.

Sincerely,

Diane Fischer
P. O. Box 118
Brownsville, California 95919

From: rainbowforest@axs.net
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Date: Sat, Apr 5, 2003 8:43 PM
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From: ewilliam@kcnet.org
To: Mike Powell
Date: Sat, Apr 5, 2003 10:37 PM
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A. Eugene Williams
521 Wilson St.
Jersey Shore, Pennsylvania 17740-1908

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From: Mark Dixon
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Sat, Apr 5, 2003 11:38 PM
Subject: re upcoming regulations

Mr. Adelstein,

I applaud your stance regarding the new regulations now being considered by the FCC, which I saw on PBS's 'NOW' Friday night.

Would that you and Mr. Copps (am I correct?) weren't the minority. As usual, the Republican majority of the board, headed by the obeisant Mr. Powell, is giving away the farm to the rapacious megalopolies. Equally dismaying is that few know about it or the invidious changes to this democracy that will result.

As Churchill liked to say, carry on with vigor.

Thank you,

Mark Dixon
Portland, OR

From: Jean McElhaney
To: Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Sat, Apr 5, 2003 11:46 PM
Subject: relaxing rules about the media

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to urge you not to relax the rules about media ownership. I understand that the Commission hopes to review and perhaps modify the rules in June. I urge you, for the sake of democracy, not to make any changes that continue the pattern of having fewer and fewer owners of more and more media outlets. For democracy to work, we need multiple perspectives. We need to encourage many owners. I don't want the same corporation to be giving me the news on the TV, radio, and newspaper. I think things have gone in entirely the wrong direction in this regard in the last few years. I really believe that the future of this country depends on having multiple independent voices and outlets.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jean McElhaney
Lone Rock, WI

From: Jean McElhaney
To: Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein
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From: mcleanheidi@aol.com
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Sun, Apr 6, 2003 12:03 AM
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Heidi McLean
3057 Montgomery Way
Sacramento, California 95817

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From: brighton-@mindspring.com
To: Mike Powell
Date: Sun, Apr 6, 2003 12:13 AM
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Santa Cruz
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